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## DWR Announces \$232 Million in Grants to Improve Water Management across California

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) today announced approximately \$232 million in grant funding of 26 proposals for Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) projects that will leverage hundreds of millions of additional local and federal dollars.

The award of funds from a 2006 water bond passed by voters statewide will support projects and programs to meet California's long-term water management needs, including delivery of safe drinking water, enhancement of recycled water use, water conservation, flood risk reduction, watershed protection, ecosystem restoration, protection of water quality and management of groundwater.

The grant recipients, dollar amounts and related purposes include the following:

- Association of Bay Area Governments, \$41.3 million, 10 projects for dam seismic retrofit, groundwater infrastructure, watershed protection and other purposes;
- San Diego County Water Authority, \$31.1 million, 14 projects for urban water conservation, turf removal rebate program, water treatment facility and other purposes;
- Los Angeles County Flood Control District, \$27.7 million, 26 projects for meter installation, storm water management, water conveyance infrastructure and other purposes;
- Humboldt County, \$11 million, 25 projects for water and wastewater conveyance and treatment infrastructure, watershed protection and restoration, agricultural efficiency and other purposes.

A list of the projects, their grant requests, their final awards and the grants' percentage of the projects' total costs can be found here:

http://water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/p84implementation.cfm

The new awards come from the final round of DWR's Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant Program. The 26 proposals that were awarded funding involve 136 projects with total costs in excess of \$1 billion.

DWR Director Mark Cowin said, "The award of these funds represents a significant milestone in advancing Integrated Regional Water Management, which continues to be a key initiative in managing water resources throughout California." Cowin said that all

together, DWR has awarded \$808.5 million to fund almost 600 projects in four rounds of Proposition 84 IRWM implementation grant solicitations.

This latest round of grants will advance the Brown administration's two-year-old California Water Action Plan, which sets forth the actions needed to provide more reliable water supplies, restore important species and habitats and create a more resilient, sustainably managed water resources system that can better withstand climate change and additional population growth. The Plan is available here.

In May 2015, DWR issued the final 2015 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and the 2015 Implementation Grant Proposal Solicitation Package. Applicants were required to submit grant proposals by August 7, 2015. DWR received proposals from 37 IRWM regions requesting approximately \$307 million.

Funding for the projects is available through Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, as amended 2010 (Proposition 84 IRWM). Proposition 84 was passed by California voters in November 2006 and authorized the Legislature to appropriate \$1 billion for IRWM. Administered by DWR, Proposition 84 IRWM grants are awarded to local public agencies and non-profit organizations for projects and programs consistent with an adopted IRWM Plan that help meet long term water needs of the State.

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Visit <a href="http://drought.ca.gov">http://drought.ca.gov</a> to see how California is dealing with the effects of the drought, and go to <a href="http://SaveOurWater.com">http://SaveOurWater.com</a> to learn how everyone can do his or her part. Information on the State's turf and toilet rebate program is found at: <a href="http://www.saveourwaterrebates.com">http://www.saveourwaterrebates.com</a>.

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

